

Sept. 18, 2001 Referral Union Meeting

Jeff Johnson, Washington State Labor Council
Dan Sexton, Plumbers/Pipefitters
Mike Hendrix, IBEW Local 46
Dick King, Building Trades Council (IBEW lobbyist)

Staff: Howard Nanto, Cheryl Metcalf, Juanita Myers, Jim Wilkins, Lori Schneider

Juanita: Department is reviewing input from stakeholder meetings this summer and analyzing whether rules are needed and, if so, what they should say.

Jeff: WSLC has had two meetings with its members. Many don't see a need for rules.

Dan: Can't do a rule to address all the so-called problems. Need to be handled on a case by case basis.

Mike: Union requires members to meet certain requirements. Local 46 is looking at a settlement with NECA. Don't want more expansion into union's administrative process. The transition to telecenters has impacted union members. Interest-based arbitration (prior to litigation) is part of settlement agreement discussions.

Dan: Good rules are in place; use existing policy, without changes.

Mike: When new union officers elected, there's not a good transfer of information. Need outreach by ESD to make sure they're aware of policy requirements. Need contact point so they know who to contact with questions.

NECA is profiling IBEW members. Member employers can then look at the union member's UI history when deciding whether to hire that individual.

Dan: Rules may have had more weight with the court. NECA was not successful in getting other employers into this fight.

Mike: Not willing to see a wholesale change of process.

Jeff: Put supplement 2 into rule without significant changes. This is not time to make big program changes. Fears opening door to the type of antics seen thus far.

Dan: Unions operating under existing policy and it works well, so adopt as is. Making changes will open door too much.

Mike: Settlement negotiations with NECA are in process. In next few weeks should be resolved. If not, back to court.